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THE UNITED FARMERS of ALBERTA

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Why Every Farmer Should Carry His Fire Insurance in a Farmers' Mutual

How the Pooling Principle May Be Applied to Fire Insurance With Advantage to All the Farmers in Your Community

By A. H. STECKLE

The article published on this page, dealing with the subject of farmers' mutual fire insurance, was contributed by A. H. Steckle, president of the Milk River Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of Milk River, Alberta. Mr. Steckle describes briefly the history and successes of the company with which he is associated. He states very definitely, "We have no quarrel with the general rates of the stock companies, but we claim that since the farm risk is one of the best in the world it should not be forced to assist in carrying other less desirable risks."

This is an age of co-operation. It is beginning to be acknowledged that co-operation is the main agent that will pull the country out of the slump from which it has been suffering. The farmers have made quite a success so far with the Wheat Pool. There can now be no doubt, I think, that the quantity of wheat that has been sold through the Western Canada Pools has helped to steady and sustain the price and that the Canadian producer has benefited greatly thereby.

ORGANIZED IN MAY, 1914

In 1913, at our U. F. A. Local, the members took under consideration the cost of fire insurance, and we were unanimous in the opinion that we were paying too high a rate for fire protection. That winter we went into the matter further, and by May of 1914 we had started what is now the Milk River Mutual Fire Insurance Company, while in the north the Lacombe Mutual was formed.

WHAT MUTUAL INSURANCE IS

Now what is mutual insurance? Well, if we called it co-operative insurance we might be better understood. Or we might call it a "pool"—that is, we pool our losses. Every policyholder has a vote as to how the company is to be carried on, and if any policyholder has a grievance, he can come to the annual meeting and where we are all farmers he is sure to get fair and honest treatment. No one can be a director unless he is a policyholder, so that anything that is a benefit to a director is a benefit to every policyholder.

There is nobody making anything out of mutual insurance, because it is insurance carried on at cost. In fact, the salary that has been paid by this company since we started would not pay the salary of a good grain man for six months.

Is mutual insurance safe? That is another question which a prospective policyholder might ask. In answer, I may say that the members of this company believe they have made ample provision to protect the policyholders. Every big risk, over a certain amount, is reinsured with a strong company in Winnipeg, and in that way we divide our risks.

JUST AS CO-OPERATIVE AS THE WHEAT POOL

Now every farmer who believes in co-operation should carry his insurance with a farmers' mutual. It is just as co-operative as the Wheat Pool, the Livestock Pool or the Dairy Pool or any other Pool, and just as worthy of your support. In fact, the directors and officers of this company have before now been called philanthropic. I suppose we may have to plead guilty, but the whole idea is protection at cost, and not the making of money for some individuals. The plan of farmers' mutual insurance is worthy of your support, so don't knock, but get out and give it a boost. It is working for you, even if you are not yet a member.

PLAN FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN INSURANCE COSTS

In the ten years that have elapsed since our company was formed, we passed through some of the most unfavorable years in the history of insurance, yet the rate for any single year never equalled those of the line companies, and the average time is much below any non-pool rates in this Province. Today this company has no liabilities, has effected a great saving in real money for its members, as well as others, and under an economical board of directors is planning further reductions in cost of farm insurance.

FACTOR OF SAFETY PARAMOUNT

The factor of safety is of course paramount in a matter of insurance. In 1920, many companies, both mutual and stock, failed, and as stated before these failures can be traced to mismanagement. Our company suffered as heavily as any of them but lived through it, owing to several causes. First, the members met all assessments honorably. Second, all excessive risks were reinsured with a strong Winnipeg company; and third, the operating costs were reduced to a minimum.

(Continued on page 14)

Bulletin Publishes Glaringly False Statements in Misrepresentation of the U.F.A. Administration

Newspaper Furnishes Example of Editorial Campaign of Falsehood—How the Public is Misled by an Unscrupulous Press Which Disregards Truth in the Interest of Politicians

A most glaring example of the manner in which some of the daily newspapers, particularly the Edmonton Bulletin, deliberately publish false statements to misrepresent to the people the policies of the present administration of the Province, is contained in an editorial printed by The Bulletin in its issue of Saturday, March 27, in connection with the number of employees in the Government service.

The editorial referred to is quoted as follows:

ANOTHER "PLANK"
GONE ADRIFT

"Another of the election promises of the Provincial Government has been shot to pieces. The Government came into office to cut down the number of Government employees, as one means of saving money and cutting taxes. On January 1, 1920, there were 1,206 names on the permanent payroll of the Province. At the end of February last there were 1,440.

"The increase is 234, or 19 per cent. Either the Ministers are employing about one-fifth more hands to do the same amount of work, or there were jobs available under their predecessors. Whichever the cause, the payroll has been lengthened, not shortened."

THE FACTS AS SHOWN IN THE RECORDS

Quotation from Votes and Proceedings, Legislature, Tuesday, March 23:

"Mr. Marshall asked the Government the following question, of which he had given notice, and which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Ross:

"Q. With the exceptions of the Railways, Telephones and Police Departments (no other exceptions), what was the number of persons in the employment of the Government on the following dates: January 1, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1926, under the following headings:

(a) Permanent;
(b) Temporary;
(c) Total?

"A.	Perm.	Temp.	Total
January 1, 1920...	1,209	54	1,263
January 1, 1921...	1,289	88	1,377
January 1, 1922...	1,333	88	1,421
January 1, 1923...	1,337	73	1,410
January 1, 1924...	1,194	167	1,361
(Including 28 Cream Graders.)			
January 1, 1925...	1,238	143	1,381
(Including 45 Cream Graders.)			
January 1, 1926...	1,270	159	1,429
(Including 45 Cream Graders.)			

"Note: The salaries of these Cream Graders are not borne by the Government, but by the creameries.

"Mr. MacLachlan asked the Government the following question, of which he had given notice, and which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Ross:

"Q. With the exceptions of the Railways, Telephones and Police Departments (no other exceptions), what was the number of persons in the employment of the Government on the following dates: when the present administration took over office, viz.: 12th August, 1921, and February 1, 1926, under the following headings:

(a) Permanent;
(b) Temporary;
(c) Total?

"How many of the above persons were employed on February 1, 1926, in services not in existence on August 12, 1921?

"A.	Perm.	Temp.	Total
August 12, 1921...	1,384	164	1,528
February 1, 1926	1,283	157	1,440
(Including 45 Cream Graders.)			

"Number of above persons employed on February 1, 1926, in services not in existence on August 12, 1921: Permanent 111, Temporary 14."

BULLETIN DELIBERATELY MISREPRESENTS FIGURES

In order to serve its political ends, the Bulletin has deliberately misrepresented the figures in the above returns. Its editorial takes the figure of 1,206 from the return made to Mr. Marshall, as representing the total permanent employees in the Government service as at January 1, 1920, and then takes the figure of 1,440 in the return made to Mr. MacLachlan as representing the permanent employees as at January 1, 1926.

A reference to the above returns shows the falsity of the Bulletin statements. While the figure 1,206 is correct as being the number of permanent help as at January 1, 1920, the figure 1,440 represents both permanent and temporary help on February 1, 1926. The permanent help as at January 1, 1926, totalled, according to the above return only 1,270, and at February 1, 1926, was 1,283, which included 111 persons engaged in services not in existence in 1920. They also represent only the permanent employees exclusive of three important departments.

HAS MADE SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION

The returns quoted above show that the U. F. A. Government has made a very substantial reduction in the Government service. They show that in August, 1921, when the present Government came into power, the old Government had permanent help, exclusive of railways, telephones and police, to the extent of 1,384, while the present total, as at February 1, 1926, is only 1,283, a reduction of 81. But the figure of 1,283 includes all persons engaged in services not in existence in 1921, so that the total reduction in staff has been 192, or a reduction of 14 per cent., and not an increase of 19 per cent., as the Bulletin would have it.

FIGURES WHICH CANNOT BE CONTROVERTED

Taking all services, the total permanent help as at August 12, 1921, was 2,561, while the permanent help in all services at present is 2,120, according to a return made to the Assembly on Tuesday, March 16. This shows a total reduction in all services in permanent help of 441, or about 17 per cent.

These figures form part of the records of the Legislative Assembly and cannot be controverted.

A PATHETIC SITUATION

Will some one please come forward
with ideas bright and new,
And it really doesn't matter what
about;
They may be ranked pithe—almost
anything will do,
If they only help McGillvray to spout.

Since the budget has been balanced
in such a tidy way,
And the argument about Spray Lakes
interred,
The poor man's mind is simply stark
—there's nothing he can say,
And for a month he hasn't said a
word.

Election in the offing, drawing nearer
every week,
And with not a new idea anywhere,
And faithful henchmen listening for
the words he cannot speak,
'Tis a tragedy that's brewing in the
air.

G. F. LEE.
Mirangare Local. Secretary.

Fines for the "Over Dressed" Swell the Funds at Conrich

"Hard Times" Dance Brings Fun for Members and Cash to Treasury

Meeting in joint session, the Conrich U. F. A. Local and the Conrich U. F. W. A. Local, which has just been organized with an initial membership of 14, held a "Hard Times Dance" in the Delaware schoolhouse on Friday, March 26th. The gathering proved one of the most successful and enthusiastic in the history of the organization in this district. Over $34 was raised by entrance fees and "fines." The fines were imposed upon all members of the U. F. A. or U. F. W. A. Locals, who were "over dressed." The judges were the president of the U. F. W. A., Mrs. Barker, and committee. All ladies who came to the meeting wearing silk or other more or less expensive garments, and all men who wore ties, or other luxurious articles of attire, were subject to fine.

Fun for Victims and Onlookers

The judging proved a source of much merriment, both to the victims and those whose dress conformed with the standards set by the committee. Percy Scott of Delacour was master of ceremonies. The prizes for the best "hard times" dress were won by Mrs. Magnesen and E. C. Baldwin. Mrs. Magnesen's costume was made entirely of grain sacks. Mr. Baldwin's weird "get up" was beyond description in the limits of space available in your paper.

JOSEPH PORTER, Secretary.
Conrich, Alta.

CONDEMNS EXPORT DUTY ON WHEAT

At a meeting of the Oakbourne Local, held on March 20th, a resolution was adopted opposing the proposed export duty on wheat. The chief benefits derived by the community from U. F. A. organization, the Local declared in answer to a question in Directors' Bulletin No. 1, have been the establishment of the U. F. A. Government and the creation of the Wheat Pool.

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EDITORIAL

NATURALIZATION AND THE COMING ELECTION

In view of the approach of a Provincial general election, it is of the utmost importance that residents of Alberta who have qualified for citizenship but have not as yet taken out naturalization papers, should do so without delay.

This matter has already engaged the attention of a number of Locals. It is worthy of consideration by every Local in every district where there still remain large or small numbers of unnaturalized settlers.

Settlers of non-British birth who have resided in Canada for five years or more, are in general entitled to become naturalized. The necessary forms can be obtained from the court houses in the various judicial or sub-judicial districts. After these forms have been filled in, and attested, they must be returned to the court house together with a fee of $5. They will then be posted for three months in the court house in the judicial district in which the applicant resides. The applicant must then appear before a judge, by whom the acceptance of the papers will be recommended if they are in order. The papers must then be forwarded to the Secretary of State at Ottawa, who must finally pass upon each application.

In view of the fact that considerably more than three months must elapse before the procedure of naturalization can be completed, it will be seen that any unnaturalized settler who desires to vote in the forthcoming election, has no time to lose. At the U. F. A. Central Office there is a limited number of application forms on hand, and these will be supplied upon request.

We suggest that every Local and District association take this matter of naturalization in hand at once, and assist in making the necessary arrangements for the naturalization of persons who have not yet taken out papers, but are entitled to do so.

It should be noted that a married woman takes the nationality of her husband. The wife of a British subject is in every case a British subject, and the wife of an unnaturalized person is an alien in law, even though she be British by birth. Children under age may be naturalized at the same time as their father, by the process of taking out a certificate.

Offices of the judicial and sub-judicial districts are situated at the following points: Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Taber (sub-district), Macleod, Calgary, Bassano (sub-district), Nanton, Red Deer, Wetaskiwin, Camrose (sub-district), Stettler, Edmonton, Peace River, Grande Prairie (sub-district).

* * *

POWERS WHICH NEED JEALOUS WATCHING

In accordance with the ancient constitutional practice still followed in Canada, any member of Parliament who takes an office of profit under the crown (by becoming, for instance, a salaried member of a cabinet), must go back to his constituency for re-election before he can sit in the House of Commons. A member of the Alberta Legislature who takes a paid cabinet position, must follow the same course.

In Great Britain the ancient practice was modified in 1919, when it was provided that a member of the House of Commons who might take an office of profit under the crown within a period of nine months following a general election, need not go back to his constituency for re-endorsement. This year, in the face of strong Parliamentary opposition, the present British Government has forced through the House of Commons legislation which entirely eliminates the necessity for a member to go back for re-election upon his accepting a post in the Government, no matter when, in the life of a Parliament, the appointment is made.

We believe that the first amendment was wise and reasonable, as it may be generally assumed that a Government which has been sustained or brought into being immediately following a general election, is in large measure representative of the electorate. The second amendment, however, seems undesirable, and it is to be regretted that the Ottawa Government, in legislation introduced some weeks ago, is following the second, rather than the first British precedent.

As the Manchester Guardian points out in a recent editorial, "the authority of the Government, and especially of the Cabinet, tends steadily to increase against that of the House of Commons, and the electorate has but scant opportunities of asserting its will against either . . . The powers of government need almost as jealous watching, though for different reasons, as they did when exercised by the crown personally."

Late in the life of a Parliament, a by-election created by the elevation of a member of the House of Commons to the Ministry, may serve, the Guardian goes on to state, to test the feeling of the country upon vitally important Government policies. Such testing of public opinion is of real value, as a check upon a Government which might have become out of touch with the electorate, and might be tempted to flout the opinion of the public if the present safeguards were entirely removed.

* * *

IRREGULARITIES IN PEACE RIVER

As we go to press, it is announced that a very complete statement in regard to the conduct of the Peace River election will be made by Donald M. Kennedy, M.P., in the House of Commons. We hope to deal with this in our next issue.

Trials recently held in Edmonton have resulted in the conviction of P. A. Robb, a poll clerk at Brule poll, for irregularities on the day of the election, and Robb has been sentenced to a term of five years' imprisonment.

With these irregularities, as H. E. Spencer has pointed out, Mr. Kennedy and the U. F. A. had nothing whatever to do. This is fully recognized by the opposition members as well as by members of the other parties at Ottawa. The election carried on by the U. F. A. and by Mr. Kennedy was clean throughout. Robb's appointment was made by those in control of the election machinery.

Mr. Kennedy was deprived of a large number of votes which would have swelled his majority by a substantial figure, owing to the failure of those who controlled the machinery, to open the polls at Ronan, Paintow and Balm. At these polls 275 voters were thus disfranchised, in a district which was known to be ninety per cent. in Mr. Kennedy's favor.

As Seen From the Press Gallery

Notes of the Week from the Alberta Legislature

By JOHN MACKENZIE

Control of Resources Will Make Absolute Honesty in Public Life Imperative — Liberal Member of Redistribution Committee Repudiates Contentions of Fellow Liberals — Marshall Learns Something About the Sinking Fund.

The conduct, or misconduct, of the Federal election in Athabasca, as revealed in the evidence submitted before the criminal courts, and the sentences imposed, should cause those who are disposed to work or vote against the present Provincial Government to hesitate. It is not denied that the present Government may have made mistakes in administration during its five years' term of office, but its sincerity and honesty have never yet been called in question.

* * *

Now that the Province is about to obtain control of its great natural resources, it is more than ever important that honesty in public affairs be preserved, for our unparalleled wealth of natural resources is in itself a temptation to bribery.

The party system, as at present practised in Canada, with its openly advocated adherence to the principle that "to the victors belong the spoils," admits of a lower standard of morality in public, as compared with private affairs. On the Jesuitical theory that the end justifies the means, methods are used in politics that would not be employed by the parties using them in their private or business life.

Alberta emphatically disavowed the spoils system in 1921, and set an example to other Provinces. Do not let the forward movement be reversed by lukewarmness. The advocates of the old system will do their very best to put the present Government out of office, one by the direct method of opposition, the other possibly not directly, but by a proposal of amalgamation, and arrangements as regards elimination of three-cornered fights.

* * *

Despite the most strenuous efforts, the Opposition was not able to pick a flaw in the estimates. R. C. Marshall stated at the first discussion of the estimates, that he was going to save the Province half a million by taking the padding out of them. He could not point to a single instance, though the Government gave him every facility, to the unprecedented extent of having the Public Auditor answer his questions in the Assembly.

* * *

A rather amusing incident happened when P. M. Christophers, Labor member, questioned the vote for the upkeep of the Lieutenant-Governor's establishment. Mr. Marshall sat silent. "Where's the official cutter-out now?" queried Mr. Christophers, which brought the Calgary member to the defence of this particular vote, representing an increase of over $1,000 from last year's costs.

* * *

While obliged to offer up opposition to the Government's program in order to justify their existence, Liberal members privately profess admiration for the way business of the session has been handled. Legislation has progressed in an orderly way, and the Government has refused to be stampeded into premature dealing with either the railway situation in the north or the liquor problem.

* * *

Mrs. McClung threw out a virtual challenge to the members of the Government to declare themselves on the prohibition issue. While many of them are prohibitionists in principle, they did not evade the challenge, and when Mrs. McClung could only get three supporters to her motion, five being necessary for a recorded vote, Messrs. Brownlee, Hoadley, Buckley, and several others sprang to their feet. The only opposition to a vote came from R. C. Marshall, the member who has persistently alleged that the Government were concealing facts from the public. He challenged the Speaker's ruling that a division should be taken.

* * *

Purely political motives induced Liberal members to move resolutions for the abolition of the Supplementary Revenue Tax and the Wild Lands Tax. They suggested no sources of revenue to take the place of these taxes, and they did not officially challenge the budget.

The only suggestions they did make were in the direction of increased expenditure, such as asking the Province to assume the whole cost of the Mothers' Allowance Act, the whole burden of indigents, and to build additional lines of railway.

If the Liberal administration which preceded the present Government had not saddled the country with several railway lines, which involve the Province in an annual loss of over $3,000,000, there would be no necessity for either the Supplementary Revenue Tax or the Wild Lands Tax.

But the Liberals will probably go before the country at the General Election and point to the efforts they made to have taxes reduced, only to be met with flat refusals. They will also weep tears over the refusal of the Government to protect the widows and orphans.

As a matter of fact, they are already doing so in the Liberal organs. The Edmonton Bulletin has every day several columns misreporting the proceedings of the Assembly.

* * *

Rumor has it that the new townsites on the Pembina Valley Railway will be named Georgetown and McLachlanville, after the popular M.L.A. for Pembina.

* * *

In the Attorney-General's estimates an appropriation of $1.00 is allowed for the Government Liquor Control Act of Alberta. Mr. Marshall did not move to reduce this. The net revenue estimated from the Liquor Control Act is $1,750,000. The cost of enforcement of this Act is provided for out of the gross sales, and is not included in the net revenues.

* * *

While Liberal organs have contended that the proposed redistribution bill is a gerrymander, the Liberal member of the sub-committee, Geo. Mills, Athabasca, stated in the House last Thursday that the committee had acted honestly and sincerely, in an endeavor to settle a highly contentious matter, and were not entitled to censure.

* * *

The Agricultural Committee of the Assembly heard the views of dentists and dental mechanics on the proposal that dental mechanics should be allowed to take impressions. The general tenor of the discussion was that a cheap job was a dear one in the end. D. H. Galbraith, Nanton, U. F. A. member, put a query as to whether the cheap plates were brought in to the customer in a basket, and whether the customer tried them until he got a fit. D. H. certainly said a mouthful that time.

* * *

The report on the Alberta telephone system for 1925, published elsewhere in this issue, should convince the public of Alberta that phone rates are too low for the service rendered. Public ownership, to justify itself, must meet conditions squarely, and even if the rental tolls have to be increased, this should be recognised as a necessary condition. Against a debenture debt of almost $23,000,000, on a system commenced fourteen years ago, there is only a sinking fund of $816,493.92; $750,000 is provided in the 1926 estimates as capital for construction, while the estimated deficit for 1926 is $158,000.

* * *

The Government is being urged to strengthen the sinking fund, R. C. Marshall has been advised in the House to establish a thinking fund, while the estimated drinking fund for 1926 is $1,750,000.

* * *

The height of Parliamentary absurdity was reached on Thursday evening last week, when R. C. Marshall moved a resolution urging the Government to set aside $500,000 a year as a sinking fund. Provincial Treasurer R. G. Reid, in opposing the resolution, informed the Assembly that last year $571,120.23 had been added to the sinking fund, and gave the Calgary member a few lessons in elementary arithmetic. This, combined with the instruction previously given by the Provincial auditor, ought to be of some benefit to Mr. Marshall. But surely the people of Calgary do not send members to Edmonton to be educated. Besides the grant of $2,000 per annum for the purpose seems excessive.

Premier Brownlee Demands That Ottawa Government Make Good King's Promise of Railway Outlet for the North

Would Be Blot on Canadian History if Provision Made for Completion of Hudson Bay Railway Without Coast Outlet for Peace River Country Being Provided for at Same Time, States Premier — Liberal Members Admit No Improper Motive in Prosecution of George P. Smith Case

Special Correspondence

Bill Provides for Nine Hours Day in Alberta Factories

To Inquire Into Desirability of Eight-Hour Day Legislation — U. F. A. Ministers Will Not Have Own Portraits Painted

MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 29.—The main business of Monday afternoon was the discussion of the new Factories Act. As originally brought in, this act provided that the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council might, after January 1st, 1927, bring a general eight-hour day into effect.

This clause provoked considerable opposition, both in the Assembly and from manufacturers. An amendment brought in by the Government today, however, removed most of the cause of objection by striking out this provision of the act. Instead, there is now inserted a clause providing for the appointment by the Government of a commission consisting of three men, who will inquire into the practicability or otherwise of the eight-hour day, and report to the next session of the Legislature.

At the opening of the sitting, R. C. Marshall, Liberal (Calgary), questioned the ruling of the Speaker with regard to Friday's division on the prohibition issue, and after some discussion, agreed to submit a motion for the opinion of the Assembly.

DOWER ACT AMENDMENT GIVEN SECOND READING

Second reading was given to the bill amending the Dower Act, introduced by Mrs. Parlby. This bill makes the consent of the wife necessary in cases of mortgaging or selling a homestead, and in the case of death of the husband, in the disposition of the homestead, the word "homestead" including furniture, animals and implements.

Second reading was also given without discussion to the following bills:

Act to Amend Provincial Loans Act (Reid); Act to Amend the Savings Certificates Act (Reid); Act to Amend the Supplementary Revenue Tax Act (Reid): this bill lowers taxation on grazing leases from 1 cent per acre to ½ cent per acre); Act to Amend the Educational Tax Act (Reid)—reducing this tax from 1½c to ¾c on grazing leases.

NINE-HOUR DAY PRINCIPLE ESTABLISHED

A bill entitled "An Act for the Protection of Persons employed in Factories, Shops and Office Buildings," introduced by Hon. Alex. Ross, establishes the principle of a nine-hour day and 54-hour week in industry, with exemptions for certain seasonal occupations. It also applies to retail stores in places having a population of over 5,000.

C. S. Pingle (Medicine Hat), asked why this bill should only apply to places of over 5,000, and the Minister replied that it would be hard to enforce in smaller places. It, however, covered factories, etc., in smaller places but not retail stores. Mr. Pingle thought it was not fair to apply the act only in urban centres.

The clause providing for the minimum wage for female workers to apply also to male workers was passed after considerable discussion. This clause provides exemptions in the case of apprentices. It is framed with the intention of remedying a condition which was stated to exist, that some employers were getting boys to take the place of girls at lower wages. P. M. Christophers said that Chinamen were being employed in some cases in place of girls.

On the amending clause providing for the appointment of a commission of three persons to inquire into the practicability of an eight-hour day, R. C. Marshall thought that the power of appointing the chairman of this commission should lie with a supreme court judge and introduced a motion to this effect.

This brought Mr. Christophers, Labor (Rocky Mountain), to his feet, stating that the Minister would be as impartial as a judge. Mr. Marshall's motion was defeated, and the commission will be appointed.

SOME INDUSTRIES DESIRE EXEMPTION

In discussing the schedule to the bill, stating industries which would come under the act, country members took objection to garages, cheese factories and creameries, small boat building plants, sawmills, salt works, etc., coming under the operation of the act. A number of these mentioned were held over for further investigation.

The northern members were particularly anxious to have their particular industries withdrawn, which led the Labor members to observe sarcastically that all the country north of Edmonton should be exempted. The reading of the act, which covered many industries which do not at present exist in the Province, caused considerable merriment, and the sad cases of the village blacksmiths and country garage men, if they were so unfortunate as to come under the operation of the act, were described with a great deal of pathos.

The climax came when R. C. Marshall asked why reporters should not have an eight-hour day, and Geo. Hoadley commented that Mr. Marshall, in view of the lavish publicity he got, would have been guilty of base ingratitude if he had not spoken on behalf of that oppressed class. The clauses of the bill were finally agreed to, though some further exemptions may be made in the schedule.

R. G. Reid moved second reading of the Corporation Tax Act and the Treasury Department Act, which was granted without discussion.

PASS ALMOST $3,000,000 IN LESS THAN HOUR

R. G. Reid, the genial Scotsman who presides over the destinies of the Treasury Department, "banged the sixpences" at a whirlwind rate at the Monday evening session, when the estimates of the Departments of Education, Municipal Affairs, and Treasury, were voted without change in the space of an hour's time. And this in the same Assembly that the previous week wrangled for several hours over a technical point in the authorization of payment of salary of $1,200 per annum to an assistant matron at Ponoka Asylum. Even R. C. Marshall, who had boasted several days before that he was going to save the Province half a million, sat silent while the money was being voted at an average rate of $11,000 a minute.

Of course, there was not much room for criticism, as the total vote was somewhat less than in the previous year.

In addition to this unwonted burst of energy, the Assembly passed eight bills (count them—eight) through committee, the total time occupied in estimates and bills being less than an hour and three-quarters. So pleased was Hon. Geo. Hoadley, who was leading the House, that he let the boys go at 9:45, though on previous evenings they had been sitting till midnight.

Estimates passed were as follows:

Education (Income Acct.)	$2,119,252.00
Education (Capital Acct.)	220,451.00
Municipal Affairs (Income)	387,890.00

(Continued on page 6)

HOLDS KING TO PROMISE

Speaking in the Assembly on Thursday, April 1st, Premier Brownlee recalled the promise made by Premier King during the general election campaign, when he described the provision of a coast outlet for the Peace River as the "spearhead" of the Government's policy. Premier Brownlee said that if provision were made for the completion of the Hudson Bay Railway, without provision being also made at the same time for the coast outlet, such action would constitute a "blot on the history of Canada."

A very complete statement was made by Premier Brownlee during the week in reference to the George P. Smith case. A letter from A. L. Smith, who prosecuted, showed that he acted entirely without consultation with the Government in the prosecutions.

What the U. F. A. Means to Me

By Gladys V. Coomber, Bulwarmad Junior Local.

We publish below the prize essay written by Miss Gladys V. Coomber, secretary of Dulwarmad Junior Local No. 164, in the first Junior U. F. A. essay contest.

The U. F. A. certainly took a wonderful step forward when it organized a Junior Branch, a step which we, as Juniors, hope it shall never regret. By having such an organization to offer innumerable opportunities to us, when young, we should be able to fill the places of our "Seniors" with greater ability than those who were unable to receive such training at our age.

Lived as Divided Community

Up to the time of our organization—1922—the Juniors were without a club of any description. We met only at church and entertainments. Each had his friend, and except for greetings, the others passed by unnoticed. Never was there a person discussing with us how, when or where a future event should be carried out. We were only children, of whom no notice was taken. We lived as a divided community, each for his own interests.

After organization, there was no noticeable change in the individuals for a short time. They were present while the chairman and secretary carried on the work. What these officers said went, and there was nothing more thought of the matter.

Time passed on. Discussions as to the benefits reaped by a certain step were common. Decisions became harder to arrive at—but our Juniors were opening their eyes, thinking for themselves and showing more interest.

Games Lead to Team Work

Games were introduced at an early period. This not only helped physically, but when once we became friendly and played in harmony, there was no doubt as to our working together.

Leaders were scarce, which was a great drawback to our development. As soon as possible we began educating leaders by having debates, mock trials, spelling and geography matches. This trained the individuals to speak before an audience and to put thoughts into words. Caution had to be used, at first, in selecting leaders, so as to make a success of the undertaking, but the final result was that any Junior when asked to partake had this answer, "I'll do the best I can."

We had co-operated, and each felt as though he had a part to fill which he could do better than anyone else. The community was giving us its support and we lived as one large family interested in things of a common basis.

The Four-Fold Plan

I think there is no organization to which I could belong that would better equip me for future life than our Junior U. F. A. I try to live up to the four-fold plan of development and think there is nothing which could so fully enrich my social life, or help me to render better service in my home, community, or nation, by becoming a capable leader and a worthy citizen.

In learning to carry on the smaller things of life—such as games—fairly and honestly played—I believe I am being equipped for things of greater importance. I am being enabled to give and take in a similar spirit, so that I will not have to be always a winner in order to be cheerful, but to be cheerful also when a loser.

The educational part enables me to get up and address an audience on short notice, feeling that I am confident of myself and not as though I should break down any minute. Having had the opportunity of being at one of the Junior U. F. A. conventions, I sincerely believe there is nothing which could inspire one in so short a time to carry on the work. The correct principles are used throughout—a practice which is lacking to a certain extent in all Locals.

Our Watchword

Our watchword, "Service", has been carefully chosen. I endeavor to live up to it by trying everything of which I am capable of undertaking, in home or community, which I think will be a benefit to either.

Thus the Junior U. F. A. has meant a great deal to me—physically, socially, educationally and morally. Josiah Gilbert Holland in his poem "Gradatim", expresses one great lesson that the organization has taught me:

"Heaven is not reached by a single bound;
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount the summit round by round."

SUCCESSFUL DRIVE

Enchant U. F. W. A. Local concluded a successful membership drive with an enjoyable banquet, followed by an amusing initiation of new members, writes the secretary, Mrs. H. Sears. A short program is given at the close of each business meeting. The Local makes a practice of helping any member who desires with special work, such as carding wool, sewing, etc.

HELP TO PURCHASE SCHOOL PIANO

Raley U. F. W. A. Local has given considerable assistance towards the purchase of a piano for the school, working in connection with a special piano committee. The matter was brought up at the October meeting, the hostess, Mrs. Walter, making a donation of $5. This was followed by a number of similar donations; the Local made a cash contribution of $21, and held a series of whist drives and dances to raise the balance necessary. A good second-hand piano was purchased for $200; shipping costs brought this up to $231.50. Practically the entire amount has now been paid, and the piano is in the school.

AN INVITATION TO ALL FARM WOMEN

All farm women are invited to join the United Farm Women of Alberta.

It aims to provide for the farm woman a social centre where she may meet her neighbors and enjoy an exchange of ideas in matters of interest.

It aims to make the farm woman herself the principal factor in her own development by giving her the opportunity for self-expression.

It aims to give the farm woman the means to extend her education in public affairs and matters that are of vital interest to every woman in Canada.

It aims to lead her to co-operate with all the people on all the farms for betterment of farm conditions.

It aims to study the rural school and arrive at an understanding as to what sort of education the rural child needs to equip him for the best, the most useful and the happiest life possible.

It aims to organize the farm women 100 per cent., and thus raise the standing of the farm woman in the public esteem as a member of an organization able to demand a square deal.

The benefits to the farm woman in this Association are:

Education. Sociability. Co-operation. Power through organization.

IMPORTANCE OF JUNIOR BRANCH

Editor, "The U. F. A.":

The last U. F. A. Convention decided that it was the duty of the U. F. A. to supervise all Junior work. Some changes were also effected regarding the Junior Branch's constitution. Besides this the necessity of developing "the U. F. A. spirit" in the Junior Branches was also stressed with great fervor.

It is indeed an encouraging sign to note that it is gradually dawning on the minds of the parents that the Juniors and the Junior Branches require the most careful consideration of all our U. F. A. work. By helping to build up and perfect the Junior organizations, we would be doing real constructive work. Indeed it is our duty to see that the Juniors are fully informed on the present economic-political conditions and their cause. It is our duty to give the Juniors the full benefit of our experience. We must, to the best of our ability endeavor to inculcate in the mind of our youth a desire for learning their full responsibility, and the cruel realities of the conditions they are facing.

For instance, the injustice of the present system under which a few get rich at the expense of the many. Also the manner and means whereby the present conditions of "farming the farmer" and the exploitation of the workers is maintained and perpetuated through schools, pulpit and press. This, in fact, is our duty. We are responsible for the conditions; therefore we must place the plain truth before the Juniors in all things.

By providing the youth with the proper co-operative education at home, the Juniors would become great helpers to carry out our resolutions against cadet training and the Boy Scout movement in our public schools. The youth thus imbued with the interest of the producers would become a valuable factor in reforming the teaching and general functions of our public schools.

In the work of opposing the spirit of all false national and imperialistic patriotism, the youth would in the majority of the schools receive the whole-hearted support of the teachers.

Now, therefore, I appeal to all Juniors and Junior Branches to interest yourselves more than ever before in this important work. We need you, and you need us. Therefore, prepare for the great work of doing away with all oppression and servitude. Help us to the

interest of all mankind to establish a better system—one under which we shall be able to secure equality of opportunities to work, and full returns for work performed. Become "real fighters for a new world, and true builders of a new and just society."

CARL AXELSON.

Bingville, Alta.

Mayerthorpe Wants Educational Fund

Suggests Services of Wm. Irvine Be Obtained

That an appeal be made for contributions to a special fund for an educational campaign, if no better means can be devised of financing such a campaign, is suggested in a resolution unanimously passed by Mayerthorpe Local recently. It is also suggested that one or more organizers be sent through the Province to address well-advertised meetings, and that in making appointments Wm. Irvine be considered. The resolution points out that the membership of the U. F. A. has decreased since 1921, and declares that the social and economic problems confronting the farmers at this time can only be solved by a strong and powerful organization.

SEXSMITH DOUBLES MEMBERSHIP

"The Philosophy of the U. F. A.—Its Place in Society" was the title of an address given by Mr. Keith of Scenic Heights Local to a recent meeting of Sexsmith Local. The speaker concluded, writes the secretary, L. Garfield Walters, by showing that the Wheat Pool is the natural and logical development of social progress.

Sexsmith Local has already doubled its 1925 membership, with prospects of trebling the number in the very near future.

GRASSY LAKE LOCAL

Grassy Lake Local are making every effort to secure new members, and are planning social gatherings as a means to that end.

BURDEN OF SPECULATION

In a letter to "The U. F. A.", which is too lengthy for publication in full, George A. Gant of Sedgewick, calls attention to the serious burden which is placed upon the shoulders of primary producers by virtue of speculation in land. Mr. Gant suggests that the Governments of the three Prairie Provinces should take the matter in hand with a view to the abolition of ownership in land, which he regards as one of the principal causes of the burdening of the farmers with their present heavy indebtedness. He suggests the adoption of a leasehold system to occupying farmers, as a substitute for the present system of private land ownership.

AIRDRIE LOCAL ACTIVE

"Airdrie Local, although not strong in numbers, is quite active," writes G. Bowers, president. "We recently gave a whist drive and hard-times dance which netted $88. We have an active 'Rating and Grievance Committee' and a 'Board of Exchange'. We have emerged from a considerable debt, and are at present in good financial standing and going strong."

University Week Will Be Held From June 2 to 8 at Edmonton

Every Local Urged to Contribute at Least $5 to the Junior Conference Fund — Plans for the Conference

To U. F. A., U. F. W. A. and Junior Locals:

Preparations are being made by the Department of Extension of the University of Alberta for the Eighth Annual Conference for Farm Young People. The dates for the Conference this year are from June 2nd to 8th, inclusive. The program begins on the 2nd, and it is therefore necessary that delegates should arrive the previous day. Any farm young person either boy or girl, between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five may attend. The program and cost of attendance for the week is outlined in the enclosed pamphlet.

It is our earnest desire to make it possible for every farm boy or girl who is interested to take advantage of this valuable experience and we are sure the organization as a whole, will lend its support. With the co-operation of our Locals we hope to be able to defray the railway fares of every one of our delegates. Surely we can engage in no more worthy activity than that of furnishing our young people with an experience which cannot fail to give them a new vision of life and service! Any boy or girl who wishes to attend at their own expense can do so, but will not have voting privilege at the business session unless the Conference decides to grant this privilege.

Plan of Assistance

Following is the plan adopted by the Central Executive to assist our boys and girls to attend the Conference.

1. Every Local is requested to contribute at least $5.00 to the Junior Conference Fund, whether it is sending delegates or not.

2. Every Local sending delegates will be required to contribute not less than $5.00 per delegate.

3. If the Junior Conference Fund is sufficient, the railway fares of all delegates will be paid out of the fund. If the fund is insufficient to pay the total railway fare, the amount subscribed will be pro-rated among all the delegates.

Vital and Far-Reaching Project

We feel sure those Locals who have no young people within the age limit (16-25) will be glad of the opportunity to share in this investment in the future of rural Alberta. This is one of the most vital and far-reaching projects our organization undertakes.

Send in to Central Office, Lougheed Building, Calgary, all contributions and names of all young people who wish to attend the Conference. On receipt of your contribution we will forward you Credential Certificate, which must be filled in and given by the delegate to the registrar on arrival at the University. These certificates will entitle the delegates to their rebate on railway fare. At the same time write the University of Alberta, Edmonton, giving them the names of your delegates on the form provided on the folder sent to you, or on a separate sheet of paper, giving the information required. It will be noted that the University requests a $1.00 registration fee which will later be deducted from the board.

We confidently anticipate an early contribution from you, accompanied by the names of your delegates. We would also ask that names of delegates be registered at the University as early as possible. The University does not feel justified in holding the Conference unless at least 75 delegates make application. Therefore it is important that delegates' names should be sent in early, as delay interferes with the completion of plans for the week and might result in its cancellation.

Yours fraternally,

SENIOR COMMITTEE ON JUNIOR WORK.

H. E. H. G. Scholefield,
Mrs. R. Clarke Fraser,
A. F. Aitken.

MONTHLY MEETING OF HUXLEY TO GRAINGER ASSN.

"The monthly meeting of the Huxley to Grainger District Association was held in Trochu on March 18th," states R. H. Macdonald, secretary. "Lunch was served at noon, and the business meeting occupied the afternoon. A chicken supper was spread promptly at six, and about 150 plates were served. Supper was followed by a concert and the 'day' was concluded by a dance; the Local about $60 ahead."

Standard U.F.A. Local Nearly Trebled

Fifty-two Members Last Year and 145 Already Paid Up for 1926

Standard Local is still growing, having now 145 paid up members, "and a few more to come," according to a report from J. Rasmussen, secretary. "Our big supper was a success, considering the roads. It was impossible for those far out to come, nevertheless there were about 185 present. Several of our own members spoke—we had not known we had so many good speakers. We also had some singing, music and readings.

"On the evening of March 12th we had a debate: 'Resolved, that the Provincial Government should adopt legislation providing for joint ownership of property between husband and wife.' Three ladies took the affirmative, and only two gentlemen the negative, which we think was unfair; and of course the ladies won. After the debate we had a basket supper which netted the Local $45.

"What about the other Locals? We do not wish to brag about what we have done, but we only had 52 members last year, so think we have not done so badly. We should have 20,000 new members in Alberta."

KINGMAN LOCAL REORGANIZED

A. Lunan, director for Vegreville, assisted in the reorganization of Kingman Local. Jas. Fletcher and Peter Stanley were elected officers.

BILL PROVIDES FOR NINE HOURS DAY IN ALBERTA FACTORIES

(Continued from page 5)

Municipal Affairs (Capital)	$6,000.00
Treasury (Income)	351,563.96
Treasury (Capital)	3,000.00

BILLS PASSED THROUGH COMMITTEE

The bills which passed committee stage were as follows:

Bill 32—An Act Respecting the Transfer to the Province of the Natural Resources Therein (Brownlee).

Bill 52—An Act to Amend the Department of Education Act. This is the act already described providing for the Province printing and publishing school books (Baker).

Bill 54—An Act to amend the School Grants Act (Baker). This provides for larger grants for poorer school districts.

Bill 51—An Act to amend the Public Works Department Act (Ross).

Bill 60—An Act to amend the Savings Certificates Act (Reid).

Bill 64—An Act to amend the Supplementary Revenue Act (Reid).

Bill 65—An Act to amend the Educational Tax Act (Reid).

Bill 58—An Act to amend the Provincial Loans Act (Reid).

EXPLANATIONS AND REPARTEE.

Premier Brownlee said that the Assembly approved of the details of the Natural Resources Bill, and he would like to have it reported, so that a petition could be framed for presentation to the Imperial House asking their consent.

On the vote for Normal Schools, J. C. Bowen, opposition leader, asked if consideration would be given later to the opening of a Normal School in Edmonton.

R. C. Marshall said if Edmonton would reciprocate by boosting the project for a junior college at Calgary they would help Edmonton with the Normal School.

Answering a question by Russell Love, U. F. A. (Wainwright), Mr. Baker said that the loans to students, for which $100,000 was asked, were being well repaid, $102,858.50 having been repaid last year.

With regard to a question by Jos. Dechene, Liberal (Beaver River), Mr. Baker said that $686,000 in round figures had been loaned to school districts, from 1915 to 1925. Of this principal had been repaid to the extent of $179,000, and interest $53,000. The amount outstanding was around half a million, and he did not expect the greater part of the balance would be collectable. The estimate for loans this year was $75,000. The situation had been much improved. In 1924 the Department had loaned $3,000, and collected $60,000. Last year they had loaned $41,000, and collected $20,000. These figures were approximate.

Mr. Dechene was informed by the Minister that the deficit on the University Hospital last year was $25,000, and it was expected that this year the hospital would about break even. Mr. Dechene said he was very well pleased with the work this hospital was doing, and that it was making such a good showing financially.

A GOOD BUY—SOLD BELOW COST

Jos. Dechene thought the public accounts should be given free to anyone who requested them. At present a charge of $1.25 is made for them. L. A. Giroux, Liberal (Grouard), thought that copies should be sent free to newspapers, schools, libraries, etc.

R. G. Reid said it had been the custom to charge for these volumes. While $1.25 was charged for each copy, they cost $6.00 each to produce. The Government was anxious to have them available but were not willing to scatter them broadcast at a huge expense.

Geo. Hoadley said there was a tremendous waste in Government publications, not so much of this Government, but of others. Hundreds of pounds of printed matter came into his own office, which he had never time to read, and other members must have had the same experience. "How in the name of heaven could any man wade through them?"

If a man got a copy of the public accounts for nothing, he was probably getting as much as his total Provincial taxes. The candidates running in the forthcoming election had all been sending for copies, and enclosing their $1.25 without demur.

DISTRIBUTION OF CANTEEN FUNDS

R. C. Marshall put in a plea for a grant to the G. W. V. A. to help the work they were doing among soldiers' widows. Mr. Hoadley said the Government were very sympathetic to this request. Much, however, would depend on the distribution of the canteen funds. This matter was in abeyance at present, awaiting the reorganization of Alberta soldier organizations.

ADORNING THE HALLS OF FAME

Gordon Forster, U. F. A. (Handhills) asked if the members of the present Government intended to have their portraits painted. The walls of the Parliament Buildings were now adorned with paintings in oils of members of former Governments, at a cost to the public of from $500 to $1,000 each.

Geo. Hoadley emphatically declared that members of this Government did not intend to have their pictures on the walls of the Parliament building, either at the public expense or their own. They would not need their pictures on the walls, for they were coming back anyway.

Political Motive Absent in George P. Smith Prosecution

Brownlee Reads Letter From A. L. Smith Showing That Prosecution Was Left Entirely in His Hands

TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 30.—That the Government had no political motive in taking action to have George P. Smith prosecuted was explicitly stated by Premier Brownlee in the discussion of the Attorney-General's estimates today. The Government had taken every step possible to see that justice should be done.

The Government's moral position in the matter was not challenged by L. A. Giroux, Liberal (Grouard) who thought, however, that A. L. Smith, K.C., who handled the case for the Government, should have brought the three parties concerned to justice, not one only.

A letter from A. L. Smith, read by the Premier, put his side of the case.

The discussion arose out of a question put some days ago, by R. C. Marshall, Liberal (Calgary) as to a sum of $1,019 that he alleged had been abstracted from the public treasury in September, 1921. The Premier had stated that he would take this matter up on the estimates, and he took the opportunity afforded to do so.

PRESENT GOVERNMENT HAD NOT BEEN DEFRAUDED

The Government had paid the Esdale Press $1,019 on an account for type matter kept standing, the Premier stated. While there had been some irregularities, there was no doubt that the type had been kept standing, and investigation showed the charge to be fair and reasonable. Esdale, however, had taken this cheque for his own purposes instead of putting it to the credit of his firm. The Esdale Press, Ltd., had not taken criminal action to recover this money. This was a case between company and servant, and the Province had no authority to interfere.

Mr. Marshall then put several further questions, as to why they did not prosecute Jeffrey on evidence given, and said he hoped they would not embarrass the Government.

The Premier said there was nothing embarrassing to the Government in the case. There had been no confession on the part of Jeffrey that he had received any money. There was a dispute in the statements of Jeffrey and Esdale, but Jeffreys had emphatically denied that he had received any money from Esdale as donations.

Jeffrey had further said that if there were any proof of fraud he would make restitution. The irresistible conclusion was that no good evidence existed against Jeffrey on a charge of fraud, no evidence on which a jury would convict. The only evidence possible would be the books of the Esdale Press, and Esdale's evidence.

Further, there would be no use in taking civil action against the Esdale Press, for the company was insolvent.

GIROUX'S ANALYSIS OF THE LEGAL SITUATION

L. A. Giroux said that the analysis given might be correct. The case was that somebody laid charges that there was something wrong in the King's Printer Department with the result that a Royal Commission was appointed to investigate. On that evidence charges were laid against three men. Only one of these men was prosecuted, the cases against the other two were not prosecuted. Why were not the three men given the opportunity to prove their innocence? They should have been declared innocent by a jury, and not by the crown. He did not insinuate that the Government or the Department was not doing right, but thought that the three men should have been treated alike.

IS HOUSE JUSTIFIED IN DISCUSSING CASE?

R. Pearson, Independent (Calgary) wondered whether the Assembly was within its rights in discussing this case, seeing that there was a civil action instituted against the U. F. Esdale for the

recovery of the $5,000 alleged to have been taken.

Premier Brownlee hoped that the member would not press his objection, as the Government wished to let everything be known. He thought the discussion quite in order. He would not go into the evidence, but would say that the practice followed by the Government was in accord with the best legal practice, both in England and here. The same procedure was followed in the case of Rex v. Williams in the courts of Ontario in December, 1925.

GIROUX WITHDRAWS STATEMENT

Mr. Giroux said the procedure was legally correct, but notwithstanding that, thought that proceedings should have been taken against the three men. He was proceeding to state that Bruce, the Government investigator, had obtained the evidence of Jeffrey by "star chamber methods", but withdrew that when the Premier stated that both Jeffrey and Esdale were represented by their counsel when being questioned by Bruce.

COULD NOT CONVICT THREE

The whole point, said the Premier, was that a conviction could not be obtained against the three men, and the evidence of Jeffrey and Esdale was necessary in order to make a case against Smith. There had not been any evidence to show that either Jeffrey or Esdale had received any part of the $5,820, but there was evidence which implicated Smith.

GOVERNMENT'S ACTION ENTIRELY NON-POLITICAL

The Government, continued Mr. Brownlee, had decided on the statements made by Louis Scott that action had to be taken, and action was taken by way of Royal Commission. This inquiry gave the individuals concerned a chance to state their case. The desire was to make the investigation unbiassed, free from political bias that could be used at the next election. In addition, Judge Walsh was asked to make his own selection of a lawyer to assist. Judge Walsh proceeded with the investigation, and appointed A. L. Smith, K.C.

Mr. Smith was given all the information in the possession of the Government. Nothing was withheld. "I deliberately refrained from having anything to do with the investigation," continued the Premier. "This was necessary if the Government was to be kept in the position of not pressing this matter unduly."

A. L. SMITH ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY

The Premier then proceeded to read a letter from A. L. Smith, the counsel retained by Justice Walsh. Mr. Smith's letter stated in brief, that newspaper articles had credited Mr. Brownlee with having assumed and discharged a responsibility that was the writer's, who wished to say that he did not have any communication directly or indirectly with Mr. Brownlee until after the investigation, nor did he have any communication with the persons responsible for laying the charges. This course was proper, to prevent the slightest political color being given to the proceeding. The responsibility for presenting the material at the investigation was entirely the writer's.

No evidence was withheld from Mr. Justice Walsh (proceeded the letter). Mr. Smith stated he did not present the evidence given from an investigation of the Esdale Co.'s books because of its contradictory and unsatisfactory nature and its leading nowhere, and for the further reason that if subsequent investigation disclosed a series of petty thefts by a departmental official, it was something for the department to deal with and not a Royal Commission.

SUBJECT OF GRAVE PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

"In my opinion the subjects of most grave public importance dealt with were the transactions with the Camrose Press by a person in high office necessarily carrying a great public trust," stated Mr. Smith.

"With respect to the trial of Geo. P. Smith and the treatment of Esdale and Jeffrey, the situation may be stated very briefly," continued the latter. "The investigation disclosed a conspiracy, it also disclosed that Jeffrey and Esdale had not received one single dollar of the $5,820 of which the Government had been defrauded. Immediately after the preliminary hearing, I informed Mr. McKinley Cameron that before his client should be put on trial, Esdale and Jeffrey would be finally disposed of one way or the other in fairness to his client, so that when they gave evidence they would be influenced by neither hope nor fear which might militate against their telling the truth.

PAWNS IN THE DRAMA

"I believed and still believe that these men received no benefit from this transaction: they gave the crown every assistance they possibly could in getting at the facts. I regarded them merely as pawns in the drama, and, following the best of precedents, both in England and in this country, adopted the course I did, which is well known to you."

NO PROMISE OF IMMUNITY HELD OUT

"I examined them both very closely and I am thoroughly convinced that no promise of immunity was at any time held out to them by those in charge of the investigation."

"You are at liberty," concluded Mr. A. L. Smith's letter to the Premier, "to make such use of this letter as you see fit, and I even trust that you will in fact find the occasion to do so in the hope that it may be of some value in setting at rest the calumny which is being heaped upon the administration of justice in the Province, over a case which was conducted by all having to do with it, in strict accord with the very high principles of crown practice which have hitherto obtained in this jurisdiction."

NOT DUTY OF CROWN TO OBTAIN CONVICTIONS

"As Attorney-General," said Mr. Brownlee after reading the letter, "my responsibility was for the establishment of the Commission, and for the subsequent action of having a criminal charge laid, but not for the Commission's conduct."

To correct misunderstanding, he would say that the duty of the crown was not the deliberate intention of seeing that someone was convicted of a crime. The function of the crown prosecutor was to make an investigation, and if there were prima facie evidence, the duty was to bring the case against whom that evidence was before a court in an impartial manner. It was not sound practice to try to hound a man.

The evidence of Messrs. Purdy and Pike was to the effect that the money was paid to Smith.

ESDALE AND JEFFREY APPEARED ONLY TOOLS

If convictions had been obtained against Jeffrey and Esdale, their evidence could not have been used. It appeared that Esdale and Jeffrey were only tools. These accomplices had to be dealt with before the charges could be laid against the other accomplice.

Neither Jeffrey nor Esdale would plead guilty, and the defence might have suggested that they were committing perjury to protect themselves. On the evidence as presented no one could say that convictions could be obtained against Jeffrey and Esdale.

L. A. Giroux: "I admit that."

"Once we admitted," proceeded the Premier, "that we could not succeed in obtaining a conviction, we had to let the men go. Therefore it was not our duty to proceed against them."

J. C. Bowen asked if a mistake was not made in changing the charge from conspiracy to theft.

"No," said the Premier. "Evidence in a charge of conspiracy is the same as in a charge of theft." Nothing was done from an improper motive.

It was fair to the accused that the other two cases should be disposed of before his came up.

DID NOT QUESTION BROWNLEE'S JUDGMENT

L. A. Giroux said he did not question the judgment of the Attorney-General, but he did question the judgment of the crown prosecutor. He was proceeding to quote what the judge had said, when Mr. Brownlee said that if the remarks made in the court were to be quoted, he would have the Public Accounts Committee called, and the judge and others could give their views there.

Mr. Giroux then said he admitted there was no deliberate wrongdoing, but he was sorry that Mr. Brownlee had not given the prosecutor instructions. If he had, he believed the instructions would have been to bring the three men before their peers. It was a monumental error that the three men were not treated in the same way.

EASY TO BE WISE AFTER EVENT

The Premier, replying, said it was easy to be wise after the event. It was not so easy to determine the course before the action was taken. The only instruction given was that every tittle of evidence should be given.

A. L. Smith had followed the course laid down by the best authorities, and the Premier was not prepared to say now that he would have followed a different course. Lawyers could not pretend to be superhuman.

Mr. Giroux said the judge seemed to have been wise before the event.

The Premier, replying, said he did not think it was fair to bring in what the judge said. If the judge were brought into this Assembly he might have something different to say.

Mr. Giroux said there must have been some motive.

The Premier warmly retorted that Mr. Giroux had grossly slandered those who

an improper motive. If there was any suspicion in anyone's mind, he would keep the Assembly here for weeks until the matter was thoroughly threshed out. He did not mind any man saying there had been an error in judgment, but would strongly resent anyone in the Assembly saying that there had been a motive. The men in the case acted honestly and fairly.

Mr. Giroux said he didn't mean that there had been a motive, but thought there had been an error of judgment.

This ended the legal argument. Mr. Duclos asked what the costs were in the case. Mr. Brownlee said he had not the figures, but the costs of the Commission would be light, and A. L. Smith's fees had in the past been very moderate.

First reading of a bill to provide advances of seed grain and assistance in taking off the crop, for the beet sugar growers at Raymond, was given. The bill was introduced by R. G. Reid.

Second reading was given to the Possessory Liens Act.

Second reading was also given to a bill to amend the Timber Areas Tax Act, reducing the taxes on timber areas from 3 cents to 2 cents per acre, and making certain other adjustments in a downward direction.

While not opposing the act, George Mills, Liberal (Athabasca) thought that some way should be found to reduce the waste of trees in taking out ties. This matter was at present under Dominion regulation, but when the Province obtained control of the natural resources, he hoped that something would be done to reduce the waste of timber.

Second reading was also given to a bill amending the Wild Lands Tax Act (Reid). This bill extends the period of exemption one year in the case of lands where irrigation works were under construction.

OUTLINE OF REMAINDER OF SESSION

Premier Brownlee expressed himself as pleased with the progress already made this session. It was hoped to dispose of all the business before the Assembly this week, with the exception of the redistribution matter and the railway situation statement. The railway statement would be brought in within 48 hours, and he wished to see the fullest discussion on it. He asked the co-operation of members in disposing of the other business, so that the Assembly would not have to sit on Good Friday. The session would re-open on Monday.

J. C. Bowen, opposition leader, asked if it was the intention to prorogue or adjourn.

The Premier said he had been hoping against hope that the Dominion Government would have the Natural Resources bill through Ottawa before adjournment of the local Assembly, but if not the final decision would be left until the wind up of the present session.

The following bills were passed through committee with very little discussion: Act to Amend Religious Societies Lands Act; Act to Amend Judicature Act; Act to Validate and Confirm Order of Board of Public Utility Commissioners; Act to Amend the Bills of Sale Act. The above bills are of a minor nature.

The Premier moved second reading of an Act to Provide for the Regulation of Oil and Gas Wells. Mr. Brownlee explained that this act was to meet the situation that had arisen in Alberta by reason of the oil development, and was framed as a result of conferences between Provincial and Dominion Governments. Forty per cent. of the development took place on land leased from the Dominion Government, and 60 per cent. was on land controlled by the Province. It would be an absurd situation to have two separate sets of regulations in one field.

If developments continued as good as at present indicated, there would be necessity for control of gas, and for obviating waste.

The proposed bill did not make statutory conditions, but gave the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council power to make regulations. There was no desire to impede development, and for that reason the provisions were not in the form of statutes.

The Government had engaged the services of S. J. Davies, formerly Dominion Government engineer, and adviser and consulting engineer, and he with Professor Allen, of Alberta University, would work in co-operation with the Dominion engineers in framing the regulations.

The bill was given second reading without discussion.

COST OF LEGAL SERVICES REDUCED

In discussion in supply of the Attorney-General's estimates, the Premier gave denial to the charges that had been made that a great increase in the cost of administration of justice had taken place in the past five years.

While he had endeavored to build up a good staff which would command the respect of the community and of the legal profession, the cost of that department in 1925 was $56,966, as against $70,423 in 1921.

R. C. Marshall, Liberal (Calgary) asked why there were still as many policemen in the Province as before the new Liquor Act came into force, as there was now a staff of 32 enforcing the new act.

The Premier said he had not all the figures available, but the fact was that the police force estimates for 1926 were $515,000, as against $547,000 in 1921 and $515,000 in 1925. It was possible that there were as many policemen as in the past, as there had always been a shortage in the outlying districts, and it would be very poor policy to withdraw the police from outlying points, where they had to make long patrols.

MARSHALL MOVES; GIROUX DISAPPROVES

Mr. Marshall moved a cut of $6,000 in the estimates.

The Premier said that if it was desired that the Attorney-General's Department should be a bible throughout the Province, they would vote for the cut, but if they wished the administration of justice well handled they would leave the estimates as they were. The highest salary paid to any lawyer in the employ of the Department was $4,800. Moreover, the cost of additional help in 1925 was $23,000, as against $35,000 in 1921. The only time outside help was engaged was in cases such as the Pincerlle case. Special counsel was sometimes engaged in cattle stealing cases.

COMMENDS WORK OF DEPARTMENT

L. A. Giroux, Liberal (Grouard) apparently did not agree with his colleague, R. C. Marshall, in cutting down costs of the Department. The staff of the Attorney-General's was of the best and had rendered valuable service. He agreed with the Premier's policy of building up the service.

Some further discussion took place, the other members who spoke upholding the work of the Department, and suggesting that some departments, such as assistant sheriffs, were underpaid.

Mr. Marshall's motion was voted down.

Pembina Valley Ry. Bill Provides for Building 27 Miles

Important Measure Gives Increased Transportation Facilities in North—Industrial Disputes Bill Introduced

WEDNESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 31.—R. Pearson, Independent (Calgary) asked today why the report of the redistribution committee was not before the Assembly. The committee should have reported before this, and were to be censured for not reporting earlier.

Geo. Johnston, U. F. A. (Coronation) said the reason for the delay was that the committee felt that if they could solve certain questions before bringing in the report, they would save the time of the Assembly.

The Premier thought it was hardly fair to blame the committee, while Geo. Mills, the Liberal member on the committee, warmly resented Mr. Pearson's remarks re censure. The committee had been working hard on a very contentious question, and the word censure was not applicable.

BOARD TO SETTLE LABOR DISPUTES

In moving the second reading of an Act to Provide for the Settlement of Labor Disputes, Alex. Ross said this act was rendered necessary because of the challenging of the Federal Lemieux Act in Ontario, and the decision of the Privy Council that this was a Provincial matter. The bill was practically identical with the Lemieux Act, though there were certain features specially applicable to Alberta. The Federal authorities would still have jurisdiction over railway matters.

THINKS FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONTROL

R. C. Marshall, Liberal (Calgary) read copious extracts from the last session of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada in an endeavor to prove that what organized Labor wanted was a Federal, not a Provincial act. All that was needed was for Alberta to pass an enabling act so that the Lemieux Act could function in Alberta, as it did in British Columbia and Saskatchewan. He wanted the bill withdrawn, or killed in the Assembly.

LABOR WANTS PROVINCIAL BILL

P. M. Christophers, Labor (Rocky Mountain) said he was interested to find Mr. Marshall in the position of a de-

Provincial Cabinet Ready to Implement Promises in North

Columbia Railway, dealt first the history of the railway.

The debate was held over, at the request of J. C. Bowen, who wished time to consider the documents.

The Assembly sat afternoon and evening on Thursday. In addition to the Premier's railway statement, considerable progress was made with bills before the House, and all are ready for the formal third reading with the exception of three or four in which minor changes are to be made.

The estimates had been approved by the close of Thursday's session, with the exception of those dealing with railways and telephones, which will be taken up on Monday.

PETITION TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

Premier Brownlee moved the submission of an address to the Imperial Parliament, embodying the text of the agreement turning over the natural resources of Alberta from the Dominion to the Province, and asking the assent of the Imperial Parliament thereto. The motion was accepted unanimously.

J. C. Bowen, opposition leader, asked what the prospects were of the bill being passed in Ottawa. The Premier stated that he had not heard of any objection not covered by the amendments recently inserted in the agreement, though there might be some with regard to the forest reserves. The Dominion Government would not complete the bill before the present session of the Alberta Assembly adjourned, and he expected this Assembly would be adjourned next week until May 1st.

MARSHALL IS WRONG ABOUT SINKING FUND

Several motions by private members were expeditiously dealt with on Thursday.

One, proposed by R. C. Marshall, Liberal (Calgary), asserted that the present Alberta sinking fund was totally inadequate, and urged that not less than $500,000 be set aside annually for sinking fund.

R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, made the motion look rather ridiculous when he informed the Assembly that last year $571,120.23 had been placed in the sinking fund, and moved an amendment stating that one-half of one per cent. is now annually set aside as a sinking fund in respect to each loan; that the earnings of the fund are showing substantial annual increases; that the total amount set aside in 1925 amounts to $571,120.23, and that, therefore, be it resolved that this Assembly views with approval the improvement in this fund.

The amendment carried by a vote of 37-7.

A motion by A. E. Claypool, U.F.A. (Didsbury), that the system of providing for indigents set out in the Municipal Districts Act placed too great a burden on municipalities where a proportion of the population was not engaged in agriculture and paid no municipal taxes, and recommending that where the sum paid for indigents exceeded five per cent. of the municipal tax levy, the Province should assume part of the excess, was objected to by the Premier, on the ground that the general principle of the Act should not be disturbed to meet particular cases. The case of any particular district should be considered apart from the Act.

Mr. Claypool's argument had particular reference to M.D. Carbon, where there are approximately 2,000 miners.

The debate was adjourned, the Premier stating that this was the first representation that had been made on behalf of this municipality, and that it would be taken into consideration.

A motion by Fred White, Labor (Calgary), resolving that the Province take steps in conjunction with the Dominion to provide for a system of Old Age Pensions, was also adjourned to allow an opportunity for the motion to be redrafted, the Premier stating that while he was sympathetic towards the object of the motion, it might as at present framed give the impression that no plan had been formulated, whereas the Dominion had at present a definite plan.

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR'S INCREASING EXPENSES

On the discussion of the executive estimates, F. M. Christophers, Labor (Rocky Mountain), said that higher salaries should be paid to mine inspectors, who were paid at present from $2,250 to $2,700. The meagre wages paid meant that many good men looked upon the jobs as temporary, and left whenever they got a better offer.

Mr. Christophers took another fling at the Lieutenant-Governor's expenses when he moved the reduction of the vote for travelling expenses from $1,050 to $50. "He shouldn't need more now that he has a $4,800 car", said the Labor man.

"Fifty dollars will just leave him car-fare," said ex-Premier Greenfield, and the members laughed, though they finally passed the estimate with some opposition, as there has been a considerable addition to the total for the Lieutenant-Governor's vote as compared with last year.

Mr. Christophers said that the Governor-General of Canada was selected with the approval of the Canadian Government, and the Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta should be selected with the approval of the Government of Alberta. The fact was that he was at present selected as a reward for political services, and although the Province paid, they had no voice in his selection.

Mr. Christophers was also strongly opposed to the continuance of the offices of fuel engineer and trade commissioner. Geo. Hoadley informed him that the whole question of these appointments was under review at present.

FORTY CADET CORPS IN ALBERTA

Fred White, Labor (Calgary), was informed, in answer to a question, that there were forty cadet corps in Alberta. They were organized by the Department of Militia and Defence with the tacit consent of the Department of Education. The initiative in the formation of cadet corps was with the local school boards.

F. M. Christophers was informed that during 1925 there had been nine cases where post mortems had been conducted by the physician in attendance at death. Of these four were at Calgary, and one each at Coronation, Vermilion, Mundare, Cereal, and Carslside.

Telephone Rates in Alberta Now Too Low

Deputy Minister Says Alberta Has Lowest Rates in the Dominion

The annual report of the Alberta Government Telephones was tabled in the Assembly on Tuesday of last week.

The telephone system of the Province continues to grow, says Deputy Minister John Callaghan in the report. During 1925 $108,884.47 was spent on extensions and the installation of 1,245 telephones, the net gain in exchange telephones for the year. The average capital cost per telephone is $87.46. There was a net gain in rural telephones of 845, reversing the situation of the previous year, when there was a net loss of 619.

At the beginning of the year there was $690,255.69 in replacement reserve. After taking out this year's requirements, there is a balance of $103,392.92.

NO INCREASE IN OPERATING COSTS

The plant had been maintained at a reasonably good standard. Operating costs had not increased, despite the very satisfactory increase in revenue of $118,313.43.

Long distance service had been extended to all points of Canada and the United States, with an average of 359 outgoing calls per month.

RURAL SERVICE BIG PROBLEM

After stating that there was a decided improvement in business conditions in 1925, resulting in increased long distance calls, the report goes on to indicate that the rural system constituted a big problem, and required careful handling.

There is but one telephone to the mile under the best conditions, and during the past few years conditions had forced many subscribers to give up the service, leaving a considerable mileage of dead line. A total of 2,500 telephones would require to be added to the existing plant to get back to where they were originally.

FINANCIAL POSITION OF SYSTEM

Financial conditions had shown a decided improvement. The total revenue was $2,655,596.72, an improvement of $118,496.45 over 1924. This revenue took care of all operating expenses, paid interest on the total investment, and left $114,969.26 towards the sinking fund. Without depreciation, the balance sheet showed a deficit of $8,864.63 for 1925, an improvement of $114,847.56 over 1924.

REVENUES INCREASE, EXPENSES DECREASE

While the number of telephones increased from 50,611 in 1921 to 56,279 in 1925, the earnings had increased from $2,347,277.00 to $2,502,175.00 in the same years, while expenses had decreased from $1,431,671.00 to $1,254,119.00. The amount provided for interest and sinking fund was $951,036.00 in 1921, and in 1925 $1,582,949.00.

Concluding, the report says that the system has contributed largely to the colonization of the Province. It has done much to relieve isolation in far out districts, and has saved much money to both urban and rural settlers. Up to

the present time the rates have been too low to provide service at a fair return on the large investment necessary. The rates are low by comparison with other Provinces of Canada, and with telephone systems in the United States, despite the fact that Alberta is disadvantageously placed in respect to her market for telephone equipment. The scattered settlement of Alberta constitutes a problem, as also do the wide areas covered by Alberta cities.

The system has two assets on which money value cannot be placed—the loyalty and devotion of the employee body, and the good will of the public. The whole-hearted support of employees and patrons must receive much of the credit for the success of the system, says the report.

In the audit statement by the Provincial Auditor, James C. Thompson, C.A., it is certified that, subject to adequate provision for depreciation, the balance sheet is properly drawn up.

The balance sheet shows assets of $23,994,472.31, against debenture debt liabilities of $22,956,148.37, and current liabilities of $409,575.85.

WHY EVERY FARMER SHOULD CARRY HIS FIRE INSURANCE IN A FARMERS' MUTUAL.

(Continued from page 1)

The most economical company is one that does not try to cover too much territory; one where all risks are under the direct supervision of the directors, and where every unnecessary expense is eliminated.

The sole aim is insurance at cost, and the proof that former rates were excessive can be found in the fact that since the organization of mutual companies rates have been cut in two in the space of ten years. We have no quarrel with the general rates of the stock companies, but we claim that since the farm risk is one of the best in the world, it should not be forced to assist in carrying other less desirable risks.

Every farmer should certainly support mutual insurance, thereby ensuring continuance of the present cheap rates—rates so low that the stock companies find that they cannot meet them, yet high enough to meet all losses in farm property where shareholders do not ask a profit on their investment.

Notes From the Wheat Pool Head Office

WHEAT POOL DISTRICT G 1 CONVENES APRIL 10TH

The annual convention for sub-district G 1 of the Alberta Wheat Producers Limited, will be held in Edgerton on Saturday, April 10th, at 1:30 p.m. W. J. Jackman, director for Edmonton district, will be in attendance. Every Wheat Pool contract signer in the district is asked to attend.

WHITE HEAD OFFICE IF CHEQUE NOT RECEIVED

Under date of March 10th cheques were mailed from the Wheat Pool office, Calgary, covering the interim payment of 90 cents per bushel on all grades of wheat delivered to the 1925 Pool, which had been reported by Elevator Companies up to February 6th, and provided growers had sent in ALL Delivery Check-

POOL BOARDS WILL HOLD CONFERENCE IN REGINA

The full Boards of the Wheat Pools of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba will attend an important inter-Provincial Conference to be held in the city of Regina on April 12th.

ing Coupons. Deliveries reported by Elevator Companies as made between February 6th and March 10th have since been recorded, and provided Coupons were surrendered, balance of cheques were mailed to growers March 31st.

Growers delivering wheat March 11th and after should receive from the Elevator, Initial Payment on increased schedule of 20 cents per bushel on all grades.

In case any member has not received cheque covering interim payment on his deliveries (and provided Coupons have been sent in), he should write the Wheat Pool, 226 Lougheed Building, Calgary, giving particulars.

Hutchinson Speaks on Pool Questions at Killam Meeting

While Some Farmers Think Pool Has Gone Slow, Commercial World Marvels at Rapid Results

A very well attended meeting of Wheat Pool members and others was held in Killam on Thursday afternoon, March 11, states a letter from William Halsall of Killam. Lew Hutchinson, Director of the Wheat Pool, addressed the meeting and gave a very interesting account of the work accomplished by the Pool since its formation. The speaker mentioned that the Western farmers had organized the largest marketing association in the world in less than three years; that while some farmers were apt to criticize the Wheat Pool Board for going too slow, the commercial world marvelled that such results had been accomplished in so short a time.

Elevator Question

Mr. Hutchinson referred to the elevator question and gave a very satisfactory reason why the Pool should go slow in acquiring elevators at the present time. He also referred to the grading of our wheat, remarking that on the whole the private elevators had treated the farmers fairly. He spoke of the necessity for the farmers to take more interest in their own organization, especially by using their ballots to elect the very best men as delegates to the annual meeting.

The farmers present were very pleased with Mr. Hutchinson's address and expressed their approval of the policy of the Wheat Board in sending out the Directors to explain to the members what is going on. They also feel satisfied that the Pool is the only system of marketing their product and feel that they are very much better off financially than they would have been under the old system.

REORGANIZE AT CLIVALE

"Clivale Local, formerly a very strong Local, had dwindled into inactivity," writes E. H. Walton, secretary, "but we reorganized and appointed canvassers. At one meeting we enrolled 32 members. The U. F. W. A. Local have joined with us, also the Happy Union Local. Our president for 1926 is J. E. Mudd, who deserves much credit for his untiring efforts to hold this Local together. At our next meeting we are having a debate, 'Resolved, that an export duty on wheat would be a benefit to the people of Canada as a whole.'"

Endowment Fund Will Be Created From the Wheat Board Surplus

Will Be Spent in Educational Research Work in Co-operation, Cereal Experimentation, and Other Farm Subjects

The sum of $112,000, surplus of the Canada Wheat Board funds, will be devoted to the furthering of general agricultural interests in the Province, in accordance with a resolution passed Thursday morning, April 1st, by the Agricultural Committee of the Alberta Legislature. An endowment fund will be created, the interest from which will be spent in educational research work along the lines of co-operative effort, cereal experimentation, and other phases of farm industry.

A draft bill will be submitted to the Assembly before adjournment embodying the resolution. The Legislature will retain control of the fund, and will revise or amend the conditions as time goes on. The administration will be in the hands of a board.

In the discussion, some members advocated concentration upon wheat growing research, and others on co-operative marketing, but the view was finally taken that sufficient latitude should be given to make the endowment serve the needs of the agricultural community as they changed with the times. All of the money, however, will be spent in the interests of agricultural progress.

RESIGNS FROM IMPOSSIBLE POSITION

Editor, "The U. F. A.":

We held the regular monthly meeting of our Local yesterday, at the usual hour. The meeting was well attended in spite of the fact that a large number of our more active members were necessarily absent at the horse show.

Our Local was confronted with the rather peculiar situation of having our president nominated by the Conservative party to contest the Okotoks riding in opposition to the U. F. A. nominee at the forthcoming Provincial election, but when it was pointed out to him that he was holding an impossible position by being president of the Local, while at the same time being in opposition to the U. F. A. Political Association within the Local, he felt it incumbent to tender his resignation, which was duly accepted, and Geo. Beatty, the vice-president was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Owing to political reasons, one of the directors, Mr. Hervy, tendered his resignation, and the vacancies thus created were filled by M. E. Lloyd of Midnapore and W. W. Stewart of Priddis; there were no other changes.

The action of the Conservative party in selecting one of our members as their candidate, is viewed as being rather more complimentary than otherwise, as it shows that in their opinion at least they had to come to the U. F. A. to find suitable material.

G. F. LEE,
Secretary.

Midnapore.

DISAGREES WITH HUDSON HEIGHTS LOCAL

Bowden, Alta.,
April 4th, 1926

Editor, "The U. F. A."

After reading all those items appearing in your paper showing increases in membership in all parts of the Province, I was astonished to find under a big heading in your issue of March 25th, the resolution from Hudson Heights Local. When I read the resolution, however, I was not at all surprised that this Local can't get members. I don't see how a Local that is capable of such disloyalty to the whole movement can keep its members or continue to live at all.

Because the delegates from Locals all over the Province unanimously re-elect H. W. Wood to the presidency, thus showing their absolute confidence in him, someone in the Sibbald district, where the Hudson Heights Local is located, seems to be peeved. The people who passed this resolution say that farmers won't join the Local because all other Locals in the Association have confidence in Mr. Wood. Why didn't the delegate from Hudson Heights Local, if there was one, put in some other nomination at the Annual Convention, if this Local is so opposed to all the other Locals in the Province? The reason given in this resolution is the most unbelievable reason I ever heard for failure to get members. If I lived in that district, as a loyal member of the U.F.A. I should blush to be a member of a Local that could pass such a resolution.

In my opinion, the reason why the membership of the Association is going up is that the farmers have more confidence in H. W. Wood than they ever had before. They showed that at the Convention, and they are showing it by doubling and trebling their membership in many cases. The efficient way in which Mr. Wood has served as chairman of the Wheat Pool is one of the chief reasons for this increased confidence, and it is a mighty good thing that we have a Wheat Pool chairman who so thoroughly expresses the U.F.A. spirit.

My advice to the farmers in the Sibbald district is that they elect a bunch of officers loyal to the spirit of the U.F.A. and anxious to co-operate with their fellow farmers in other Locals. Perhaps if they get a loyal, new bunch of officers, they will be able to increase their membership.

Yours fraternally,
GEO. G. MELSON.

Bowden Local, No. 9. Sec.-Treas.

U.F.A. Gives Sound Business Governm't to This Province

Farmer With Fifty Years' Experience of What the Old Parties Stand for, Has High Praise for U. F. A. Government

Editor, "The U. F. A.":

I thought I would say a few words in favor of our Provincial Government for it's the best in Canada. They neither tried to please enemies or reward friends, but gave us a sound business Government. It has not been a free-for-all as we have had, and our farmers should stand by them.

Be Your Own Business

You have started to do your own business, do not be led off by the silver tongues that are going through the Province; they will sting you as they always have done, and you will take 50c for your wheat again as you have had to do in the past.

Press Very Silent

The press is very silent now about the U. F. A. Government. They said that we needed a business Government in this Province; they have found out that we have got one and they did not make it; is all that's wrong.

Mr. Editor, what we need is a larger U. F. A. paper and it should be in every house. Then we would have the truth at all times.

As I commenced voting in 1878, I know the two old parties quite well. I have taken enough of your space for this time.

E. L. SQUIRE.

Lanfine, Alta.

Enthusiasm High for the U.F.A.

Great Victory for U. F. A. Government Expected in Election, A. Lunan Reports From Vegreville

Editor, "The U. F. A.":

I have been holding a series of meetings at Hay Lakes, Tofield and points along the G. T. P. branch of the C. N. R. and everywhere I go I find enthusiasm in the U. F. A. running high.

Great interest is being shown in the coming Provincial election, and everyone is optimistic of a great victory for the U. F. A. Government, many believing that the U. F. A. majority will be greater than in 1921.

Co-operative marketing is a live topic in this district. The members of many of the Locals that I have visited might well be described as "live wires". This is especially true of Bardo, Tofield and Ryley.

A. LUNAN,
Director Vegreville Constituency.

MISS TURNER ELECTED TO CALGARY SCHOOL BOARD

Miss Amelia Turner, assistant editor of "The U. F. A.", was elected to the Calgary School Board on March 31st, in a recall election, defeating the chairman of the board, F. S. Selwood, K.C., by a majority of 775 votes. The issue in the election was the action of the school board in reversing the policy endorsed by the citizens more than ten years ago, of supplying all text books to pupils from school funds, and refusing to give the citizens an opportunity to vote for or against this reversal in a plebiscite which had been asked for. The board in the past has bought all text books at wholesale prices, the books remaining the property of the board. This is the policy which has been followed in Britain since free education was introduced almost a generation ago. The reversal of policy placed all parents under the necessity of buying the text books retail, at much higher prices, and so added to the total costs of education, and imposed a heavy burden on parents of small or moderate means.

Mr. Selwood was a candidate of the Liberal party in the last Provincial election, and it had been considered probable that he might seek another nomination in the Provincial general election this year. He was elected by a large majority in the school board election last December.

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EVERY LOCAL is requested to contribute at least $5.00 to the Fund. You owe this educational work to your young people.

Write for information or send your contribution at once to Central Office U.F.A.—302 Longhead Bldg., Calgary.

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